THE GENESEE FARMER.

Vol. VI. ROCHESTER, MAY 21, 1834. No. 21.

Published by Luther Tucker.

TERMS.—The Farmer is published every Saturday, making an annual volume of 416 pages, to which is added a Title-page and Index, at the low price of $2,50, or $2,00 if payment is made at the time of subscribing.

☞ All subscribers must commence with the volume, Jan 1, or with the half volume, July 1. No subscription taken for less than six months.

☞ THE MONTHLY GENESEE FARMER is made up of selections from this paper, and published on the first of each month, forming, with Title-page and Index, an annual volume of 200 pages, at the low price of FIFTY CENTS a year, *payable always in advance.*

THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1836.

Stable Manure.

When the winter is over and cattle are turned to pasture, what is the best way to manage the manure that has accumulated in the barn-yard during the cold season? This is an important inquiry, well worthy of every farmer's deliberate attention. No better application however, can be made of a part, than to spread it over the land intended for Indian corn, or potatoes; but in most cases there will be a large surplus. Now how ought this to be managed? In the southern parts of Pennsylvania, we have observed it in some places, neatly thrown up in heaps to ferment; and if the farmer is very active, it may be turned over once, if not oftener, during the summer season,—to increase the fermentation, and to reduce it to a state much approved of by gardeners, who term it "well rotted manure." When applied in autumn to wheat-fallows, the harrow may intimately mix it with the soil, and the growth of the young crop will be much accelerated before cold weather.

The late Judge Peters, President of the Philadelphia Society for promoting Agriculture, was inclined to consider this a judicious course. He says in his NOTICES FOR A YOUNG FARMER, "Have a pen or stercorary of solid masonry, with its bottom paved, or composed of sound and well compacted clay. Your manure gathered into your pen or stercorary, should be secured against the *treading of cattle*, which by excluding the air *prevents the necessary fermentation*, a reasonable degree whereof is essential, although when excessive it should be checked." Again: "In what state dung should be applied, is a disputed question. Some plough it in, at an early stage of putrescence, and some when it is more advanced. The middle course is perhaps the best. To Scarcity [Mangel-Wurtzel] or other tap-roots, *fresh dung is decidedly hostile.* Well rotted compost is indubitably best for top-dressing on either grain or grass."

In our own district, less attention is paid to manures than in more steril lands; and very few, if any, of our farmers take the trouble to throw the accumulations of the barn-yard into heaps. The right management of manure is a subject which we suspect but few of them have duly considered. We have seen it hauled out *at any convenient time* from spring until autumn, and left in heaps on the field for many weeks together. Now in this way it is not only very unequally applied, but the loss by fermentation must be considerable. If it were spread evenly over the ground, both these objections would be in some measure obviated; and if it were ploughed under, most of the fertilizing particles would be retained in the soil. If stable manure must ferment and rot before it is applied, by letting it remain in the barn-yard till that process is completed, there would be at least one advantage: it would require less labor to remove it.

We hold it to be a sound principle however, that *stable manure when fermenting should always be covered with earth of which lime forms a part,*—whether it be in the field, in the barn-yard, or in the stercorary; but as we do not intend to discuss the subject of composts at present, we shall make room for the remarks of a correspondent:

"I cannot say that well rotted manure is better for *wheat* than that which is fresh and unfermented. I believe mine is of larger growth and yields more bushels to the acre when the manure is taken fresh made from the stables, and is so coarse and long as to be ploughed under with difficulty. Nearly every farmer in this neighborhood would say the same thing. Why then is the doctrine of Judge Peters and other theorists held up for example in preference to the every day facts of practical men."

By having presented Judge Peter's advice in a preceding paragraph, our readers will be enabled to form their own opinions. We do not know how much well rotted manure can be made from a given quantity of fresh manure from the barn-yard; but doubtless that which is very coarse will be most reduced by fermentation. We are really in want of more definite knowledge on this subject; and our correspondent by instituting some experiments of this kind, would perform a most acceptable service. It might entirely change the practice of some farmers.

Corn.

Ranked according to their value as an article of human subsistence, and perhaps according to the actual numbers existing upon them, the three principal *graminæ* would stand as follows: rice, wheat, corn. The first can only be cultivated in countries of great warmth, the second only in regions that are temperate, while the last succeeds in every country where there are a few weeks of summer of sufficient intense heat to mature and ripen the crop. Under the equator, wheat does not grow on the plains—it is only found at the temperature of the more elevated regions. On the contrary corn delights in the brightest summer sun, and provided the roots can reach moisture, it rarely or never suffers from the heat.

Corn either in whole or in part is used for bread by two thirds of the inhabitants of the United States. In the south the climate is unfavorable to the preservation of wheat and flour —hence corn is of necessity a principal article of subsistence with them; while in New England, mixed with rye, it is preferred to any thing else for bread. The cultivation of corn must then be an object of primary importance with every farmer, and the best methods which theory or experience suggest to increase the quantity and value of the crop, should be attended to by every one engaged in its production.

Corn requires a good soil; one is rarely if ever found too rich, either naturally or artificially. It bears manure better than any vegetable grown among us; requires deep ploughing, and spreads its roots to a considerable distance and great depth. For this reason in a rotation of crops corn generally forms the first of the series, being, like some of the cultivated roots, a gross feeder, and unlike some of the other grains, the magnitude and plumpness of the ear usually correspond with the size and vigor of the plants produced. Corn land must be made mellow, and if free from weeds and grass so much the better for both the corn and the cultivator. But we have no intention of entering upon the ground so ably occupied in the letters of "A Father," whose essay on the subject of corn leaves little to be desired of information on the preparation of soils and seeds—the best methods of planting and after culture. Our object is to present to the readers of the Farmer, in a condensed form, a history of the methods adopted by farmers in different sections of the country, to produce those large crops which go so far to show that the capabilities of our soils and the most advantageous course of treatment are but imperfectly understood. Too many concurring favorable circumstances are perhaps required to often realize the highest crops of corn on record; yet we are convinced if the best and most thorough modes of preparation and culture were adopted, yields of eighty or a hundred bushels might in favorable seasons be relied upon with certainty.

The first I shall give, is from a report of a crop by Mr. Bugbee, near Springfield, Mass. He says—"Last spring I ploughed up a piece of green-sward, measuring five acres. After ploughing, thirty loads of manure to the acre were spread over it, and thoroughly mixed with the earth by the harrow, without disturbing or breaking the sward. On the 30th of May I planted my corn. A small quantity of ashes, lime and plaster, mixed together and prepared for the purpose, was put into the hill at the time of planting. Of this mixture there were two and a half bushels lime, the same of plaster, and twenty-five bushels of ashes for the whole five acres." The corn was hoed twice, and from one acre, the crop being carefully gathered and measured, it was found to be 108 bushels of good clean merchantable corn. As this acre was no more than a fair average, the quantity produced by the five acres was not less than 540 bushels. How much in this case is to be attributed to the mixture applied to the hill is of course unknown, but the theory of the application is good, and deserves a repetition.

We give another extract from the Ploughboy of Dec. 1820. "There was raised on the farm of R. H. Rose at Silver Lake, Pa. the present year, Indian corn at the rate of 136 bushels per

acre. It was the short white eight rowed corn, planted in rows three feet apart—the stalks nine inches from each other in the rows. Rather before the usual time of topping, the stalks of every other row were cut off just above the highest ear. The corn was planted on the third day of June, and gathered on the sixteenth day of September." A writer in the Genesee Farmer, vol. 1, No. 20, seems to have mistaken the object of thus cutting every other row. He says, "In order to take advantage of this operation, (of topping,) the stalks should be cut as soon as they are up, and before the blossoms appear, because after the blossoms have shed their pollen, then their functions are performed, and all the stalks might be taken off as well as half." The object of topping every other row was undoubtedly to give the plants more benefit from the sun's heat; but we doubt whether in this, or any other method of topping, the loss is not greater than the gain. The sap must be elaborated in the leaves, or it does not become fit food for plants; of course topping must be prejudicial.

In 1831, Mr. Butler of Chenango co. in this state, reported for the New England Farmer a crop of corn raised by him that year, and the method of cultivation. The ground was a stiff loam. The land ploughed but once, yet thoroughly and completely done. Twenty-five cartloads of sheep manure was then put on an acre, and spread evenly over the surface. It was then rolled and harrowed with a light double harrow containing 40 teeth, until it was a complete garden mold. The land was planted on the 22d and 23d of May, on an even surface, with the early, small white flint corn, steeped in a solution of copperas and saltpeter, and then tarred and rolled in plaster, and planted 3½ feet from center to center of the middle of the drills. The plants stood singly from 12 to 13 inches on the drills. The corn was kept clean, plastered well on the plant, topped at the usual time, was ripe on the 15th of September, and was harvested the middle of October, and found to yield, "at least 130 bushels of shelled corn, 60 lbs. to the bushel, or 140 at 56 lbs. per bushel, to the acre.

But the greatest crop of corn we have reason to believe ever raised in this country, was that reported by the Messrs. Pratts of Madison county, and which well authenticated in every respect, amounted to 170 bushels per acre. Their mode of preparation for planting does not appear to be superior to those mentioned above, but they increased their crop by adopting a system of planting which gave a greater number of stalks, and of course ears.

It is admitted that these are extraordinary cases of productiveness; but the ordinary crops of Mr. Stimson of Galway, and Judge Buel of Albany, averaging as they do from 80 to 100 bushels per acre, clearly demonstrate what may be accomplished by sound theory and corresponding practice. We think that farmers in general are not sufficiently aware how much the amount of the crop depends on the method of planting. This is an operation which more than most others requires attention and system; for let the soil be ever so rich and productive, if there is not half the seed put on which the land can support, or if it is not properly distributed, there will of course be a deficiency in the crop. To show how much greater the number of stalks will be in one method than in another, we have prepared an estimate collected in part from an address by Judge Buel, and the statement of Mr. Clark, of Northampton. In a favorable soil it rarely happens that every original stalk does not produce one ear, and sometimes two of corn; allowing these ears te produce in shelled corn one gill each, and they must be very inferior not to exceed that quantity, the amount produced per acre by different methods of planting, will be as follows, four stalks being allowed to each hill when planted in that form.

An acre in hills 4 feet apart, and 4 stalks in a hill, will have 2,722 hills, or 10,888 stalks. An acre planted 3 feet apart will have 4,840 hills, or 19,360 stalks. An acre planted 3 by 2½ feet will have 5,808 hills, or 23,232 stalks. An acre planted in drills at 3 feet, and the plants in the rows at six inches distance, would have 29,040 stalks. An acre planted in double drills,

* * * * * * *

* * * * * * *

six inches apart, the plants 9 inches in the rows, and three feet nine inches from the center of the drills, would have 30,970 stalks. An acre planted three rows in a drill, thus,

* * * * * * *

* * * * * * *

* * * * * * *

rows six inches apart, and the plants 9 inches in the rows, with a distance of 3 feet from the center of the drills—and this was the way adopted by the Messrs. Pratts to produce their great crop—would have 43,560 stalk. Reduced to a tabular form, and a gill of corn to a stalk allowed, and the result would be thus:

Rows 4 ft. by 4,	10,888	stalks,	42	bush., fractions
" 3 " 3,	19,360	"	75	" [omit.
" 3 " 2½,	23,232	"	93	"
Drills 3 ft., pl'ts 6 inches,...	29,040	"	113	"
Double drills as above,...	30,970	"	120	"
Triple drills as above,.....	43,560	"	170	"

The difference is indeed most striking, yet how few there are that will profit by such lessons. We continue to plant our corn so as to get only from 45 to 50 bushels an acre, when the same soil is able to give us 80 or 100. But we satisfy ourselves with the reflection, that our fathers were as wise as most men, and they always planted their corn in hills, and why should we deviate from such a practice. The best corn we have ever raised, or seen raised, was planted in rows to and a half feet apart, and the corn eighteen inches in the rows, two stalks standing together, being the same as if planted in hills at 3 by 2½ feet.

There can be no possible doubt of another thing in planting, and that is, our farmers are far too economical of their seed corn. Better to use double the seed actually required, than to have your land but half supplied with plants. There is an advantage too in being able to select the most vigorous plants at hoeing, while the weak and sickly ones, not being needed to stock the field, can at once be rejected. Judge Buel has estimated the expense of raising a crop of corn at 15 dollars per acre, allowing five dollars for rent of land. Now if a farmer gets 30 bushels an acre, to use a Yankee phrase, "he comes out of the same hole he went in at," allowing the corn worth fifty cents per bushel. If he gets 60 bushels, he makes fifteen dollars an acre; if but 20 bushels, he loses five dollars; making a difference in the profits of 20 dollars between 20 and 60 bushels an acre, or 100 dollars on a piece of five acres. Corn, when properly cultivated, is a most valuable crop, and when, as for several years past it has, commanded 75 cents a bushel, it is a very profitable one. It ought moreover to be remembered, that the extra manuring and tilling required to produce a heavy crop of corn, is abundantly repaid in the increased quantities of wheat, barley, or grass that may follow. Twenty acres of good land is better than fifty of poor; and a man will be much more likely to get forty bushels of wheat, or fifty of barley, from land that has produced a hundred bushels of corn to the acre, than from that which will not produce one-fifth that amount. It is contrary to the order of nature, that manure and labor applied to the earth should be lost. G.

Planting Trees—No. 1.

There are few sights more truly gratifying to the man of good taste and correct feeling, whether his education, and of course his associations, belong to town or country, than the well order and well arranged farm, with its clean fenced fields, its golden harvests, its fruit-laden trees, its majestic groves, and its broad green meadows. In the neat white house placed at a proper distance from the public highway, half buried in beautiful shrubbery, and shaded by the dense masses of forest foliage that overhang the avenues, there is a picture of quiet and repose, which indicate the man of sense, and afford the expectation not often disappointed, that the internal arrangements of the mansion correspond with its exterior style, and that the owner has a right, if such a right belongs to any man, to say, "here will I enjoy a green old age, and surrounded by the endearments of home, here will I take mine ease in mine own house."

All seem willing to admit, that the premises planted with trees, is far more desirable in every respect, than the naked, we had almost said, unenclosed fields and dwellings that so frequently greet the eye; yet how few comparatively there are, who, for the sake of securing the good, are willing to encounter the trifling trouble and expense necessary to be incurred. With us the love of trees is a passion; it is a part of the adoration we involuntarily feel in the majestic temple of nature. Where are columns more beautiful and massive than rear themselve in the recesses of our native forests? Where are arches more light and graceful than the branches and foliage furnish?—and where rises a more solemn and lofty hymn to the Deity than in the wild woodland, where a million of rustling waving branches utters a tone only equaled in depth by an ocean's world of waters?

The man of meditative, reflecting habits, should plant tress, for under their shadow is a place of all others the best adapted for his peculiar dreamlike existence;—the man who glories in nuts and apples should plant trees, as he can thus easily and honestly obtain them;—and he

whose waking thoughts and midnight dreams runs on dollars and cents, should by all means plant trees, as such an operation is one of the easiest methods of replenishing the larder, and preventing that common complaint, the consumption of the purse. The sales of the mulberry tree in New England the present season will make many of the growers rich; and there is scarcely a section in the cultivated parts of the northern states, in which at the present moment wood land is not worth more per acre than cleared land.

Trees intended for ornamental planting may be divided into three kinds: those which are fruit bearing as well as ornamental—those that possess value for their peculiar properties of timber—and those that are cultivated for their beautiful appearance alone.

Among the common fruit bearing trees there are few that can properly be considered as deserving of planting out solely for the sake of ornament. Their claims are founded rather on utility than beauty. There are some, however, which are an exception, and among these the English cherry and pear tree hold, in our opinion, a distinguished rank. Independent of the excellence of their fruit, there are few trees of any kind that exceed them in the cone-like shape of the top, or the deep green of the foliage, and unlike most other fruit trees, they shoot up to a height always desirable in trees intended for parks or avenues. After these come the nut bearing trees, and of these the chestnut, *fagus castanea*, and the horse chestnut, *æsculus hoppocastanum*, are well deserving of notice. Although the prickly husk of the former constitutes somewhat of objection to its culture, yet the rapid growth of the tree, the value of the timber and the nuts, and the beauty of the foliage, render it a deserved favorite in situations favorable to its growth. The chestnut grows to a great size, and lives to a great age. The oldest tree in England it is supposed is the celebrated Tortworth chestnut, well known as a boundary tree in the reign of King John. It is reckoned at the present time to be 1100 years old. It is about fifteen feet in diameter, and still bears nuts. The horse chestnut is a native of Hindostan, but is extensively cultivated as an ornamental tree, both in the United States and in Europe. In Europe the fruit is used for feeding various kinds of cattle, being first by a peculiar process divested of its covering, and then converted into paste. In the United States this tree is cultivated solely for its beauty, the nuts being rarely used, and the wood destitute of value. Its large bright green leaves, its profusion of flowers of the most brilliant colors, and its full elegantly turned top cause it to be much known as an ornamental tree.

Some of the walnuts are valuable trees, and when planted in groves, or employed as ornamental trees by the road side, well vindicate their title to notice. Of the nut bearing trees there is none, we believe, the fruit of which is so universally agreeable as that produced by the species of hickory commonly called the shag bark walnut, and as a firewood this tree is without a rival. The hickories and the walnuts, though frequently confounded together, are distinct trees, and should be spoken of as such, a sufficient characteristic or mark being, that the covering of the hickory nuts open in sections or valves, while the covering of the real walnut is, when green, smooth and entire, and in drying only becomes black and wrinkled—it does not separate like the hickory. Of our native walnuts there are two deserving of cultivation as ornamental trees, the black walnut, *juglaus migra*, and the butternut, *juglaus cinerea*. The black walnut is found in most parts of the United States, and under favorable circumstances yields to none of our forest trees in majesty and value. The nuts form a common article of commerce, though inferior in flavor to the hickory nut; the wood is dark colored, hard and firm—is capable of receiving a fine polish—is very little affected by moisture or dryness—and should, long before this time, as a material for cabinet furniture, have superseded the mahogany of the shops. The black walnut is easily cultivated and of rapid growth. The butternut is a smaller tree than the black walnut, though in our native forests it frequently reaches a height of eighty feet, and two or three feet in diameter. It is valuable for its timber and for its nuts, which are produced in great abundance, and being of quick growth, it should not be passed over by the planter of trees. We have seen some avenues of this tree, which were exceeded in beauty by few we have ever witnessed. There is one or two disadvantages attending it, however, which render it an improper tree in all places: it is not favorable to the growth of any vegetation, trees, shrubbery, grass, &c., that fall within the range of its branches, and the fallen leaves, if green, partake of the viscid nature of the green fruit, rendering them liable to color or stain whatever they fall upon. The butternut is good for posts, for rails, and for various agricultural and economical purposes, as it lasts long, and is unaffected by worms. The black walnut and the butternut spring up in abundance wherever the nut bearing trees are found, and all that is necessary to secure an ample supply is, simply protection for the young seedling till they are fit to transplant. G.

Ornamental Plants.

The following notices are selected from the Gardener's Magazine for March by J. C. Loudon, just received.

Arborescent Dahlia.

At the Linnæan Society, Nov. 3, Mr. Lambert exhibited a branch and leaves of an arborescent species of Dahlia, from Oaxaca, Mexico, which is said to grow to the height of fifty feet! There are living plants of it in the Liverpool Botanic Garden.

Œnothera humifusa.

It is a pretty little hardy annual, which creeps close to the ground, forming a plant one foot across, and shedding its seeds freely. The tube of the calyx is of a read color. When exposed to much light, the corolla is of a very pale delicate flesh color, but when the plant grows in a cool shaded place, of a beautiful pink color. A native of Florida.

Bartonia aurea.

A very beautiful half-hardy annual, discovered by Mr. Douglas in California, and raised in the garden of the London Horticultural Society, where it flowered in July last. Stem 2 to 3 feet high. Flowers axillary, produced towards the tips of the branches. It is only beneath bright sunshine that its splendid flowers unfold. As the sun exercises its influence, the petals gradually unroll, till every branch is radiant with gold; and so metallic is the lustre of the inside of the petals, that they seem as if composed of something more solid and enduring than the delicate and perishable tissue of a flower.

"Essay on Calcareous Manure."

We take the following notice of this excellent work, from the March number of the Gardener's Magazine by J. C. Loudon:

"The object of this essay, Mr. Ruffin informs us, is to investigate the peculiar features and qualities of the soils of the tide-water districts of Lower Virginia; 'to show the cause of the their general unproductiveness; and to point out means, as yet but little used, for their effectual and profitable improvement.' The sterility of these soils Mr. Ruffin has ascertained to arise from their being destitute of calcareous earth, and from their being injured by the presence of vegetable acid.

After two chapters on earths and soils generally, and on the soils and state of agriculture in the tide-water districts of Virginia, the author treats the different capacities of soils for improvements, and discusses the following propositions:—

1. 'Soils naturally poor, and rich soils reduced to poverty by cultivation, are essentially different in their powers of retaining putrescent manures; and under like circumstances, the fitness of any soil to be enriched by these manures, is in proportion to what was its natural fertility.

2. 'The natural sterility of the soils of Lower Virginia, is caused by such soils being destitute of calcareous earth, and their being injured by the presence and effects of vegetable acid.

3. 'The fertilizing effects of calcareous earth are chiefly produced by its power of neutralizing acids, and of combining putrescent manures with soils, between which there would otherwise be but little, if any, chemical attraction.

4. 'Poor and acid soils cannot be improved durably or profitably, by putrescent manures without previously making them calcareous, and thereby correcting the defect of their constitution.

5. 'Calcareous manures will give to our worst soils a power of retaining putrescent manures equal to that of the best; and will cause more productiveness, and yield more profit than any other improvement practicable in Lower Virginia.'

These propositions contain the marrow of the essay, which is closely reasoned, and in several particulars, original. Mr. Ruffin has the merit of first pointing out that there can be no such thing as a naturally fertile soil, without the presence of calcareous earth; but where this earth is present, the soil, however exhausted it may have been by culture, will when left to itself, after a time regain its original fertility: that soils which contain no calcareous earth are never found naturally fertile, except masses or beds of vegetable matter, which are not properly soils: and that all that art can do to them, exclusive of adding calcareous earth, is to force crops by putrescent manures; but that when these manures are withheld, the soil will speedily revert to its original sterility. Mr. Ruffin observes, that no agricultural or chemical writer ever denied these facts; but he asserts, and we think with truth, that by not one of them have they ever been distinctly stated. We are not quite certain as to Grisenthwaite, but we are so as to Kirwan, Dundonald, Davy, Chaptal, and other agricultural writers of the Continent. Mr. Ruffin allows that it might be inferred from the ingredients exhibited by the analysis of fertile soils, as given by these chemists, that calcareous earth was an ingredient essential to permanent fertility; but still none of them have ever distinctly said so. We shall probably examine the work more in detail hereafter: in the mean time, it is due to Mr. Ruffin to state it as our opinion, that he has performed a very important service to the scientific agriculturist in this country, as well as in America."

COMMUNICATIONS.

LETTERS FROM A FATHER,

Living in the State of New York,

To his Son in Western Pennsylvania.

NO. XX.

On Implements of Husbandry, &c.

To MY SON—It is intended this letter shall be composed of miscellaneous subjects, and bring into view several things which, although very important to farmers, have not been distinctly noticed in the preceding letters. I begin with implements of husbandry. To have tools enough to work with, and such as are well adapted to the uses for which they are designed, is very essential to successful agriculture. To labor with a worn-out implement, or with one that was never fit for the use to which it is applied, or that is dull, or in other respects out of order, is, to say the least, exceptionable economy. Many do this under a mistaken notion of prudence. Nothing, they think, should be lost—every implement should, as they suppose, be made to perform all the service of which it is capable, or in other words, be fully worn out. Much of this prudence is indeed commendable, but it may be, and often is, carried to an unreasonable extreme. Suppose, from considerations of economy, you operate from day to day with a worn out, broken, dull, and worthless hoe, when with a few shillings a good one might be purchased, with which double the value of labor could, with equal and perhaps greater ease, be performed. Is this, think you, practicing according to enlightened views of economy? Farmers whose resources are small, must not indeed expect to be supplied with all the varieties of implements which, in connection with more liberal circumstances, would be advisable; yet they should, so far as their means will admit, have a supply of such as are most needed, and these should be well constructed for their uses, and be kept in good order.

Much depends on keeping tools in proper order, and preserving them from needless ruin. I have spoken of the hoe. It is a cheap thing, and certainly it is one of the most important implements of husbandry. But it needs to be kept in good order. In my early life, having no Genesee Farmer to instruct me, or suggest improvements, I scarcely knew any better way, when my hoe was battered and became dull, than to use it in that condition. The principal remedy for the evil then known to me was, to put on the more strength. So slow was I, and just so slow are farmers in general, to make, without example or instruction, even the slightest improvement in husbandry. Having for many years been a diligent reader of agricultural journals, I have learned, among other things, that a hoe, as well as an axe or a sythe, can be made to operate better for being sharpened. Had I learned nothing more, this alone would have nearly remunerated what the journals cost me. I now keep a file almost exclusively for sharpening my hoes, shovels and spades, and frequently, when I carry my hoe into the field, I take my file with me, that if by any means my hoe should become dull, I may readily put it in order.

There is, in the practice of many farmers, an unpardonable slackness in needlessly exposing to damage such tools as are liable to be injured by the weather. All tools, composed in whole or in part of wood, are of this description. When tools thus composed are, as many allow them to be, perpetually exposed to the weather, they hasten to destruction, and the period of their existence is very short. All such tools should be kept under cover, and exposed to the weather as little as they can be consistently with the use required of them. Here permit me again to bring myself and my own practice into view, for in no other way can I so happily illustrate the sentiments which I wish to express. In the early days of my husbandry, I did not so well understand the economy of farming implements as I should have done, nor was I sufficiently careful to keep my tools under cover. The consequence was, my tools lasted but a little while, and the expense of keeping myself supplied with them amounted to a heavy tax. It was not until nearly twenty years ago, when I began to read the journals, that I fairly understood the importance of keeping wooden tools under cover. Here again I am indebted to the agricultural journals. Let it not be said, common sense should have been a sufficient teacher, relative to the subject of which I am treating. True it should, but common sense has rarely been found sufficient, without other help, to teach the most simple maxims of husbandry.

I altered my practice, and became very careful to house my wooden tools. The difference in their durability was soon found to be almost surprising, and my tool tax was reduced at least fifty per cent. I have now two ploughs which have been in use not less than twelve years, and although they have been used, more or less, every year, they are still good. It is not known to me, that there has been the least giving out in the wooden part of either of them. My practice is, when I have done ploughing, to put my plough immediately under cover. The same is my practice in regard to every other wooden implement of husbandry. I can assure you, that to take good care of tools, and especially to house such as are likely to damages by the weather, is, to the farmer, a matter of no trifling importance. No one who neglects to do this, should expect to become a thrifty and successful agriculturist.

The adage, "A place for every thing, and every thing in its place," is, to all business men, and especially to farmers, full of import. There are many practical men who indulge a carelessness as to putting things, and especially tools, to their proper places, which never fails, and cannot fail, of operating to their great disadvantage. There are many whose practice it is, when they have done their work, to drop their tools, and leave them where they were last in use, instead of gathering them up, as they should do, and carry them to their appropriate place. This practice admits of no excuse. It is needless, and the evils with which it is fraught are many and great. Hence, when tools are wanted, they are not to be found, for not unfrequently it is entirely forgotton where they were left. Much time is spent in searching for lost tools, and business in the mean time suspended, because it cannot go on for the want of them. Nothing can be easier than to prevent all such unhappy disasters, and many other perplexities and damages, which result from the same culpable cause. The only requisite is, to make it an habitual practice to gather up tools, when work is done, and carry them to a place appropriated to their keeping. To have a particular place for every set of tools, or several sets together, may seem rather notional, yet it is very important.

Farming business, more if possible than any other, needs to be carried on in an orderly and systematical manner. In general, only one sort of work should be going on at a time, and as a general rule, that one sort should be finished before another is undertaken. Some there are who strive hard for perishable treasures, and yet accomplish little or nothing, because, instead of doing one thing at a time, and doing it well, they mix together and half do many things, thus rendering their efforts inefficient and unavailing. It is of the first importance to a farmer, that he plan and manage his business in such a manner as always to be ready for his work when it comes to him. By this I mean, he should take effectual care to keep his business in a forward condition, and never suffer ordinary causes to hinder him from being ready to perform every sort of work at the time when it should be done. How often we see the reverse of this! Many there are who always keep their business behind hand. Of course, when planting time comes, they are not ready for it—their ground is not prepared, and there is other work which must be done before they can attend to planting. Accordingly, if they plant at all they plant out of season, and can have little prospect of gathering any other than a light and imperfect crop. It happens just so when the time comes to sow wheat, or put in seed for any other crop. They are not ready. This, to say the least, is a miserable way of conducting the business of a farm. So far is it from being the right way, that it is the very antipode of correct practice. The only true, comfortable, and successful way of conducting the business of a farm is, to keep fully up with it, and be ready to do every thing at the time when it should be done. This requires good planning, prudent forecast, and a due regard to order and system in the regulation and management of business.

My next and closing remark is, that farmers should know the value of time, and learn to improve it in the best practical manner. It is impossible to attend, in a proper manner, to the numerous and multifarious concerns of husbandry, without practicing rigid economy as to time. When I speak of time only as it relates to temporalities, I scarcely know what language can be employed duly to express its worth. It has been said, "time is money," but this is only a very faint and imperfect expression of its value. It is, indeed, the richest treasure which our beneficent Creator has been pleased to commit to our trust. Money is not comparable to it. Yet how many there are who place no estimate upon it, and squander it away in idleness and profligacy! To know how to improve time to the best advantage—to gather up the fragments thereof, and apply them all to useful purposes, are attainments of inestimable value. Happy the man who has been able to make himself, in any good measure, master of these almost sacred arts.

How many baskets full, think you, will he take up?

A FATHER.

New York State, March, 1836.

Legislative Aid to Agriculture.

BY VORUS.

In a late number of the Farmer, I saw a petition to the Legislature praying the attention of that honorable body to the subject of making appropriations for the benefit and improvement of agriculture. That such a system, were it adopted by our Legislature, would not be productive of immense emolument to the Empire State and to individuals, would be but folly to argue. And, indeed, I know not why Mr. Hawley's plan would not be as good as any that could be at present devised. While so many different opinions exist among our farmers in regard to making the appropriations, and in devising a system that would secure the object in view, it would be almost impossible to draw up a plan that would meet the approbation of every individual in all particulars. Therefore, if farmers would wake up to the subject, and unite their efforts in some plan, exert an unanimity and concert of action in a system like Mr. Hawley's, the general features of which are good, and make this the subject of their deprecation, the result would undoubtedly be in their favor. Until this is the case—until there is a more permanent interest excited among the farming class of the community, these petitions to the Legislature will, without doubt, be rejected. If, however, there is nothing done at this session of the Legislature on the subject now under consideration, we hope the minds of the great body of farmers will be fully prepared, at the next session, to act with energy and decision.

To attempt to enumerate the advantages which would result from a state appropriation for the encouragement of husbandry, might be considered in me an act of supererogation. This I shall not attempt to do, but will briefly state some facts. To prove that agricultural associations, as well as other institutions for disseminating knowledge, are beneficial to national interest and public prosperity, we need only refer to Scotland. It is about fifty years since agricultural societies were instituted there, and during that time seven or eight millions pounds from the treasury have been appropriated for the benefit of these institutions; and the consequence is, that the increased product has been more than SIXTY MILLIONS! besides an increase in the value of their lands, and the beauty and fertility of their country. The French people, in the exercise of that munificent spirit which has rendered Paris, the emporium of the arts and sciences, the seat of useful knowledge and elegant learning, have endowed seminaries and institutions dedicated to all the different branches of rural economy. Why then should we hesitate to commence the foundation of similar establishments? The inducements are more urgent, the demands as imperious, the prospective advantages incalculable. We should feel dishonored as a nation that no institutions have been founded for the advancement of an art which includes so much—which administers to our wants, and multiplies the sources of our happiness. This reprehensible indifference—this total negligence of measures for inculcating theoretical knowledge and practical skill in a fundamental department of human education—is inexcusable, and demands the serious consideration of the people.

In many of the old countries, and in the new, where societies have been formed for promoting intelligence in the several branches of husbandry, the most happy effects have been experienced. Competition and the award of premiums, have excited a spirit of emulation and inquiry among the cultivators of the soil—have induced them to adopt the most successful modes of cultivation—and to produce the most from a given quantity of land. The effect has been, ornament and recreation combined with utility and comfort. These societies brought together men of kindred minds, men ardently engaged in the same peaceful and honorable occupations, and the meetings were places where opinions and facts were freely and beneficially interchanged. "Never were the funds of the state more profitably appropriated than in the trifling sums annually distributed from the treasury among the societies; and the day when the voice of the people shall be so far heard as to cause their revivification under the patronage of the state, may be hailed as a proud one for the spirit and resources of New York. It is not to the comparative paltry sum to be divided that we look for the benefit, but to the spirit of inquiry it will create, and the public attention that will be directed to the interests of agriculture generally."

The agricultural school now in contemplation,* to be under the patronage of the state, is a well conceived project, and we hope it may be acted upon with decided reference to the interest of the farmer. Some have proposed that a pattern farm be attached to the institution, on the manual labor system, where the sons of farmers may resort to be instructed in the theory and practice of farming. Most of our population are maintained by husbandry and gardening; it is therefore of the first consequence that instruction should be universally disseminated on all branch of tillage. A powerful impulse should be given to thss great branch of national industry. It is required by public policy, patriotism, and a just regard to the rights and interests of the people. And it is greatly desirable that the state governments should take measures to facilitate inquiries and experiments. As a science and an art, agriculture embraces a wide field, requiring an extensive acquaintance with natural history and philosophy, while the practical operations are so various and difficult and oftentimes even delicate, that they cannot be satisfactorily performed without intelligence. Theory and practice must be taught—science and skill acquired in a contemporaneous manner; and this can only be done in well managed schools of instruction, combined with farms of experiments, under well educated and practical masters.

But if we are to have but one of these requests granted from the Legislature, undoubtedly appropriations made for the benefit of well organized county societies, with town auxiliaries, would at present be most productive of utility.

I find myself already transcending the limits of an essay, and must close by calling upon the correspondents of the Farmer to express their opinions on this subject.

VORUS.

April 20, 1836.

* Already passed and become a law. See last page.—ED. GEN. FAR.

Plaster--Time of Sowing, &c.

BY AN ONONDAGA FARMER.

In the distribution of this valuable mineral, few parts of our country have received a more abundant supply than the county of Onondaga; and in few places are the great resources it offers to the farmer more fully improved, or thoroughly appreciated. The rapid increase of the quantity used; the great amount of grain annually offered in market, and the general amelioration and improvement of farms and the farming interest, form the most conclusive arguments in its favor. It is but a few years since two or three mills were able to supply the call for home consumption, as well as the demand from abroad. I have no means of ascertaining the number now in operation, but it is very great; and I have been assured that the large stocks accumulated in the early part of the winter, and varying at the respective mills from five hundred to fifteen hundred tons of plaster, was, by the first of April, entirely disposed of, with scarcely a perceptible diminution of the demand.

In this county, plaster is used extensively on pasture and meadow land—on wheat, barley, peas and oats—on corn, and in fine on most vegetables cultivated by the farmer. As in other places, its beneficial qualities are most fully shown on soils naturally dry, and composed of gravel sand or loam; and the least benefit is derived on lands wet, stiff clays, or shallow soils, based on hard pan. Some writers have recommended sowing plaster on wheat as soon as sown, and in the spring wherever wanted before vegetation had commenced; but the farmers in this county have not in general adopted this practice. It has been found most beneficial on wheat, barley, &c. when the leaf of the plant has been considerably developed, and is rarely used on clover and the grasses until the ground is partially covered with the springing vegetation. The ill result which some have apprehended from its settling on the leaves of plants, has been shown to be wholly without foundation; and it is believed that at the present time more plaster is sown on wheat after it attains a height of several inches, than at any other period of its growth.

There is some reason to apprend that farmers are running their land too hard in some sections of the country for their eventual profit; and that relying on the success which has accompanied the use of plaster, they are beginning to neglect the employment of the less active perhaps, but more substantial manures. While it is believed that plaster, by providing from the atmosphere one of the principal constituents of all plants, retards the exhaustion of the soil, it is evident that by continual cropping without the application of decayed animal or vegetable matter, the best soils must sooner or later fail, and become deprived of their productive powers. To show what is meant, it is sufficient to state, that we know of one farmer who has for seven years in succession taken a crop of wheat from the same piece of land, plaster being the sole application; and the straw of the last crop was heavier

than any of the preceding ones, to which was attributed the fact, that the berry was not as heavy as usual. Is it not rather probable that the shrinking of the kernel was a symptom of the exhaustion of the soil? Another farmer, on a lot of twenty acres, has for four years alternate wheat and oats, with a sensible increase in the productiveness of both. The crop of wheat in 1824 was twenty-five bushels per acre; the twenty acres in 1835 produced 1250 bushels of oats; yet in this case neither clover or manure was used—plaster alone was relied on. This it is true is the way to realize immense present profits from farming; but are not men who treat their generous fields in this way in danger of verifying the fable of the man who killed his goose that laid the golden egg?

Since the foregoing was written, a neighbor, a farmer, has informed me, that on part of a large field of oats he last year sowed half a ton of plaster, and by careful comparison of the product from the part sown with the part not sown, he is convinced the increase in consequence of the use of plaster, was not less than one hundred bushels of oats. A pretty fair profit in return, truly. AN ONONDAGA FARMER.

Driving Posts for a Fence.

BY H.

We were much pleased with the very easy and expeditious mode of setting posts for a board fence by driving them. The small end of the post is sharpened—a hole is then made in the ground with a crowbar three or four inches in diameter at the top, by working the bar backward and forward—the post inserted and drove the necessary depth with a heavy maul. In soil that is rather loose and free from large stones, they may be drove two feet or more with great ease and expedition. One man can set them faster than two men can nail on the boards, and when set they are firmer in the ground than posts set the usual way by digging. The proper time to drive them is when the ground is moist and yielding. H.

Inquiry.

MR. TUCKER—A subscriber of your valuable paper desires to be informed of the most approved machine for extracting stumps—would like to have a description of it—and to know where it could be obtained, and what would be its price. If you or any of your correspondents would communicate this information through the columns of the Genesee Farmer, you would much oblige A SUBSCRIBER.

Chess.

On our first page will be found an article from the Genesee Farmer on the subject of chess or cheat. An experienced farmer and close observer who perused the article a day or two since, gives an additional and conclusive reason why cheat will generally spring up where wheat has been spilled. He says that *fowls will not eat cheat*, though they will carefully pick out every grain of wheat. He states that he speaks from *accurate and repeated observation*. This being the case, the few grains of cheat to be found in almost any parcel of wheat, if left upon the ground, will by its tendency to spread make a great show. He states that the leaf or cheat from its first appearance is more pointed than that of wheat, and has a fuzzy appearance, which will enable an *experienced* eye to distinguish it from wheat. He expressed his view of the question by saying, that he would as soon expect to see a stunted horse turn into an ass, as that wheat should become chess.—*Zanesville (O.) Gazette.*

From the Cultivator.

Conklin's Revolving Press Harrow.

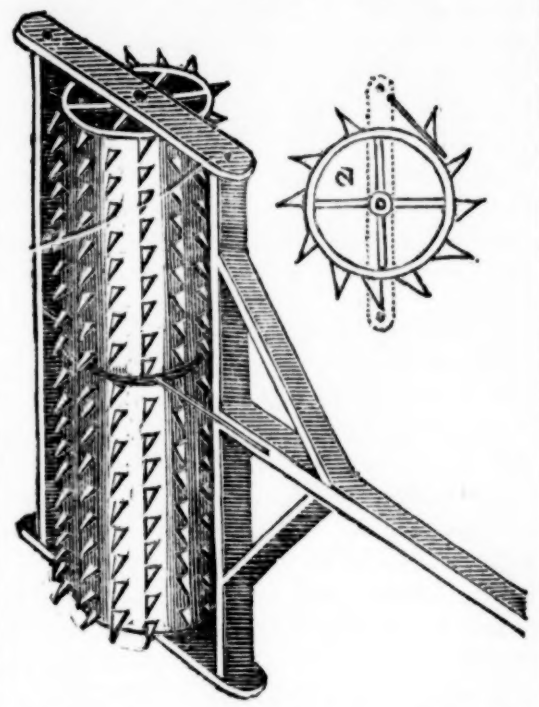

Fig. 2, represents the end of one of the cylinders, showing in particular the manner in which the teeth, which are attached to the frame behind, operate in clearing the teeth of the roller.

The machine consists of two cylinders, 20 inches in diameter, and 3 feet long, formed of cast iron staves, which are bolted to end pieces or heads, in the center of which are boxes, similar to those of a cart-wheel, and revolves on an axle in the same manner. The teeth are of wrought or cast iron, and are inserted in the staves, and are fastened by means of keys or nuts upon the inside.

The use of this implement is—

1. to scarrify pasture or meadow grounds, to root out mosses, fit them for grass seeds, and thus increase the product.

2. To scarify stiff clays and tough sward grounds, after they have been once ploughed, which this harrow pulverizes and fits for the crop.

Though we have not seen this machine in operation, from the principles on which it is constructed, and the excellent character and representation of the patentee, we are induced to believe it is an excellent implement for the uses intended. The patentee is Mr. JOHN C. CONKLIN, of Peekskill, Westchester county.

Management of Bees.

A small work is now in press, and will soon be published, entitled "*A Manual, or Easy Method of Managing Bees*," by JOHN M. WEEKS, Esq. of Salisbury. This little volume is one of great interest and utility. It enables any one, by the observance of a few plain and simple rules, to remove pure honey from the hive without the loss of the bees, to multiply swarms, to enlarge swarms, to multiply queen bees and keep them on hand, to prevent entirely their destruction by the *moth*, and to perform many other most pleasing and useful experiments. Mr. Weeks' rules can be most easily followed, in connection with a hive of his own invention, for which we understand he has obtained a patent.

Mr. Weeks exhibits in his work an observation of the habits and a knowledge of the instincts of the bee, which, we believe, no other individual has attained. No one can peruse it without being astonished at the facility with which the little insect in question can be managed to suit the wishes and minister to the comforts of its owner. All, we think, must acknowledge that Mr. Weeks has done a most essential service to the public by putting the results of his experience in their possession. We trust that no one who has a taste for natural history, or is interested in bees, will fail to examine his work.—*Middlebury (Vt.) Free Press.*

From the Cultivator.

Mangel Wurtzel.

The culture of this root is extending among us; and although different opinions are given of its value, when compared with the Swedish turnep, the preference for one does not necessarily preclude the other. They thrive best on different soils—the mangel wurtzel does best in a deep, moist, clayey loam, and the Swede on a dry soil, inclining to sand.

The mangel wurtzel is a species of beet, of which there are varieties, differing principally in color. The flesh colored is preferred, as affording the largest produce; though the whiter species, when of moderate size, has been found to contain the most saccharine matter. The soil for this crop should be rich and deep, and if trench-ploughed the better, as roots cannot be expected to grow to a fair size below the stirred earth. Trench ploughing is merely ploughing two furrows deep, by following, with a second plough, in the track of the first. The surface should be perfectly pulverized with the harrow. The seeds should be sown in drills, at 18 to 24 inches apart, the latter being preferred, as it will permit the crop to be dressed with the cultivator. They may be sown with Robbins', or the common drill barrow, or dropped by the hand in shallow furrows previously drawn, and then covered an inch or an inch and a half deep. A seed will often produce two or more plants, all but one of which should be drawn out, and the plants thinned to 8 or 12 inches whenever they are so far advanced as to warrant it. Some persons strip the side leaves to feed to cows, when these have become large, but it is believed that this is done at the expense of the future growth of the root. But the crop should be harvested when the plants have matured, which is indicated by the lower leaves changing their color, as after this period, as was ascertained by Chaptal, a portion of their saccharine matter is transformed into potash, and the roots become less nutritious and palatable. If sown the 20th to 25th May, the crop will have time to mature early in October. The product is generally equal, and sometimes larger than that of ruta baga—often amounting to fifty tons the acre, but twenty tons, or 600 bushels, is a fair crop. This root may be profitably grown in the middle and northern states, though the extreme north is not so well adapted to it as to the Swedish turnep. The whole process of culture consists in thinning the plants, keeping down the weeds, and the surface of the soil mellow. They do not require to be earthed or hilled. The seed may also be sown with a dibble, thus: take a strip of plank, two or three feet long, and three inches wide; bore a hole in the center, and fix in it an upright handle, three feet long, with a cross piece at top to hold by; then bore holes at 1½ inches distance, and fit in pins, to project 1½ inches from the bottom, sharpened at the lower points. With this the planter makes holes upon the line of the row with great expedition; a boy follows, drops a seed in each hole, and covers it with his toes. If two feet long upon the base, every impression of the dibble will make a dozen holes. Seeds planted with the dibble are most apt to grow, as they can readily be planted at the required depth, and be covered with fine mold.

The roots may be preserved in the winter in cellars or pits, like ruta baga, though they are less hardy. They are readily eaten by all farm stock, and are found highly nutritious; though all seem to agree in this, that they should not be fed without other food, as hay, straw, or other roots, and should at no time constitute more than two-thirds of the food of a beast. As we have remarked, different opinions prevail as to the comparative merits of this root, with Swedes and potatoes, as food for farm stock. Experiments, made under the authority of the Highland Society, in feeding with potatoes, mangel wurtzel, and ruta baga, for three months, produced a like result,

as to increase in flesh, but the dealers thought the beef of the cattle fed upon ruta baga some three or four dollars a beast better than the other. The Doncaster agricultural committee, thus sum up the advantages of cultivating this crop:

"It is more sure to plant; being very little liable to the fly or grub. It will produce more crop. It is off the land earlier. It is better spring food. It is useful as a change of fallow crop, when the land is tired of turneps; and can be grown on soils on which they cannot be raised."

On the other hand, in favor of Swedish turneps, it may be said:

"That the weeding and thinning are far less expensive. That there is rather more time allowed for fallowing in the spring. That the succeeding crop is better than after mangel wurtzel; and

"That cattle feed best on Swedish turneps when they are fed alone."

And, *we* add, that with us they may be grown as a second crop after clover.

It should be borne in mind, that the price of labor in Britain is much less than with us; that the mangel wurtzel crop requires great labor, in May and June, before the seed of the Sweedish turnep is sown; and that this labor, with us, is a matter of no little moment. It is probably advisable that the farmer should sow the beet or turnep, or proportions of each, according to the quality of the soil which is to be appropriated to them.

The Potatoe.

There is hardly any crop about the management of which a greater diversity of opinions exist than this—whether we regard soil, seed, or mode of planting and culture. The British Board of Agriculture, with a view to ascertain the best mode of managing the potatoe crop, addressed a number of queries to the principal farmers in the kingdom, calculated to elicit the facts necessary to determine this point. The circular and the answers were published in a large quarto volume, together with the report of the committee charged with the arrangement and publication of the facts. The statements are so variant, that the committee were unable to recommend any particular practice, as that which was most successful in one case, proved defective in other cases. The only important fact settled by the inquiry was, that potates differ very materially, in some cases fifty per cent., in their nutritive properties, a consideration as material for the stall as for the table. Since the date of that publication, however, very nice experiments have been made in Great Britain, particularly in Scotland, and by Mr. Knight, and also in the United States. From these we draw the following conclusions:

1. That in this latitude the potatoe is better, both as to produce and flavor, when grown on a moist and cool, than when grown on a warm and dry soil—better on a moderately loose and friable, than on a hard compact soil.

2. That they do better on a grass lay than on stubble—and better with long or unfermented manure, than with short muck.

3. That medium sized whole tubers give a better crop than sets of very large tubers.

4. That drills or rows should be adapted to the growth of the tops, and the condition of the soil—the small growing tops nearer, and those having larger tops farther apart—so that the sun may not be excluded from the intervals; and where the soil is stiff, or the sod tough, hills are considered preferable to drills.

5. That if the ground is well prepared, and the seed well covered, they are not benefited by heavy earthing; and that ploughing among them, or earthing them, after they come in bloom, *is* prejudicial.

6. That the kinds best for the table, are also best for farm stock, containing a larger portion of nutriment than inferior kinds.

While upon this subject, we will mention that our friend, Capt. Joab Centre, who some time ago left ploughing of the deep for ploughing of the glebe, has invented a potatoe plough, which is said greatly to facilitate the gathering of the crop. As soon as we become satisfied of its utility from our personal knowledge, we intend to give a cut and description of it.—*Cultivator.*

Grape Diet.

The physicians of Geneva send some of their patients to the Pays de Vaud, during vintage, to take what is called a regular course of grapes—that is, to subsist three weeks entirely on this fruit, without taking any other food or drink. In a few days a grape diet becomes agreeable, and weak persons, and also the insane, have found great relief from subsisting on it for three or four weeks.—*Bakewell's Travels, v. 11, p. 206.* We can add our own authority in conformation of the utility of a grape diet. We have twice made grapes our almost entire food, from ten to fourteen days each, when confined with a billious fever. We ate them without stint—they were at no time ungrateful to the stomach, and we are satisfied they did us much good. Reader, have you planted a grape vine! If not, do it the coming month. —*Ib.*

Meteorological Journal,

KEPT AT LEWISTOWN, FULTON CO., ILLINOIS, IN LAT. 40.27, FOR MARCH, 1836.

Days.	S. rise.	Noon.	S. set.	9 P. M.	Remarks.
1	20	24	10	11	Clear, cold and blustering.
2	10	36	36	24	Clear.
3	16	52	43	39	do.
4	28	50	33	30	Cloudy and clear.
5	4	22	22	18	Clear.
6	22	38	25	18	do.
7	8	32	25	19	do.
8	30	40	40	42	Cloudy—P. M. rain.
9	30	32	27	24	Cloudy.
10	10	29	18	9	Clear—squally.
11	2	20	10	1	Clear.
12	0	29	28	24	Clear and cloudy.
13	28	46	33	31	Snow 2 inches—cloudy.
14	35	45	35	30	Clear.
15	38	33	32	28	Cloudy—snow 2 inches.
16	31	38	54	55	Foggy.
17	32	38	30	24	Clear.
18	19	34	29	24	Clear—sprinkling of snow last night.
19	22	38	32	30	Clear.
20	26	40	35	35	Snow last night 1 in.—cloudy and clear.
21	26	30	25	20	Clear & cloudy, & blustring.
22	10	31	24	16	Clear.
23	26	54	40	34	do.
24	22	43	32	26	do.
25	13	41	37	34	do.
26	34	55	53	50	do.
27	46	64	55	52	Clear and cloudy.
28	34	42	40	39	Cloudy—P. M. rainy.
29	36	48	45	44	Cloudy.
30	38	50	52	50	Cloudy—rainy night.
31	50	58	52	49	Cloudy and clear.

☞ The frost has been about 2 feet, and since this thaw commenced it is out about a foot. The grass in some places shows some green spires. Last year at this time grass was up, and early corn planted in March.

☞ P. S. March came in like a Lion, and went out like a Lamb.

The two imported Horses,

TURK and ALFRED,

WILL stand at Thomas Weddle's stables, Old Norton's Farm, 5 miles west of Canandaigua, on Monday the 30th May, and the two following days. THOS. WEDDLE.

East Bloomfield, May 17, 1836. may 21-flt

Mangel Wurtzel & Turnep Seeds.

A LARGE importation of superior MANGEL WURTZEL, WHITE FIELD, AND OTHER TURNEP SEEDS, together with a fine lot of English Garden Seeds, of the growth of 1835, just received at the ROCHESTER SEED STORE.

We are confident these seeds will prove of the first quality, and they will be afforded at a less price than heretofore.

may 7 REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Seed Oats.

50 BUSHELS English Oats of American growth, weighing 38 lbs. the bushel, for sale at the Rochester Seed Store. Price 65 cts. per bushels. may 7

Broom Corn.

20 BUSHELS New England Broom Corn Seed just received at the Rochester Seed Store. may 7

Flower Seeds and Plants.

IN addition to their former stock, the subscribers are now receiving a new supply of Flower Seeds, including many rare and extremely beautiful varieties never before introduced here. Price, 6 cents a paper—20 varieties for $1, 50 varieties for $2, 100 varieties for $4.

DOUBLE DAHLIA ROOTS.

A fine assortment from the unrivaled collection of Messrs. Buel & Wilson, Albany. These will be potted and ready for sale in a few days.

GREEN-HOUSE OR PARLOR PLANTS.

A splendid collection in a fine healthy condition for sale at low prices.

apr 30-ftf REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Seed Corn.

A LARGE supply of the early 12 rowed or Dutton Corn in the ear, just received at the ROCHESTER SEED STORE.

The gentleman who raised this corn writes, that "It was planted from the 18th to the 20th May—cut up on the hill from 5th to 25th Sept.—yield from 85 to 95 bushels per acre—stalks one third less than common 8 rowed yellow, and 14 days earlier."

Also—The other varieties for sale as usual.

Orders for the above and other seeds will receive prompt attention, and shonld be sent immediately.

apr 30-ftf REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Improved Stock,

TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION, AT HYDE PARK, *The Residence of the late Dr. Hosack,*

SOME most valuable stock of the IMPROVED DURHAM SHORT HORNS, and some of Mixed Blood. It consists of several Bulls, several most excellent Cows, distinguished for their milking properties; and some Young Stock. The character of this stock is of the best description; they are of pure blood; and their pedigree and history will be given at the time of sale. There will likewise be offered one hundred Bakewell Sheep; full bred, and in good condition. The sale will take place on the 20th of May current. A rare and most favorable chance will thus be offered to those persons disposed to improve their stock. May 5, 1836.

THE SILK CULTURIST

AND FARMER'S MANUAL.

Published monthly by the Executive Committee of the Hartford County Silk Society, at 50 cents per annum. Volumes I. and II.

THE object of this publication is to disseminate a thorough knowledge of the Silk business. The cultivation of the *M*ulberry Tree in all its varieties—rearing Silk Worms—the production of Cocoons—reeling and manufacturing Silk, and Dyeing the same. The publication will contain a complete manual of the Silk Culture from sowing the seed to preparing for market—Sewing Silk and Twist—and will keep the Culturist advised with regard to the progress of the enterprise—the formation of Societies and Companies, Enactments of Legislatures for the promotion of the object, and facts, and experiments of individuals. It will also contain choice articles on new and interesting subjects connected with agriculture.

THE CULTURIST was commenced in April last, and there are now published *Five Thousand Copies* monthly, with a rapidly increasing circulation. Arrangements have been made to furnish the first volume to those who make early application for the second. Each volume will contain ninety-six quarto pages. One dollar forwarded to F. G. COMSTOCK, Secretary, Hartford, Conn. free of expense, will pay for both volumes, or fifty cents for the latter. The second volume commences the first of April. No subscriptions received unless paid in advance.

Knowing the great difficulty of obtaining genuine Seed at a distance, the Secretary of the Society will forward *White Italian Mulberry Seed for* 1000 *Trees* to those who are subscribers to the First Volume and order the *Second*, and to those who subscribe for both Volumes before the first of July next.

Hartford, Conn. April, 1836.

☞ REYNOLDS & BATEHAM, Agents, Rochester. april 16

An Act to incorporate the New-York State AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL—PASSED MAY 6, 1836.

The People of the State of New-York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. William L. Marcy, John Tracy, Jesse Buel, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Henry Yates, Gideon Lee, Joab Center, John P. Beekman, Cornelius W. Lawrence, Philip Hone, Benjamin Knower, Gouverneur Ogden, Erastus Corning, James Wadsworth, David E. Evans, Hiram Pratt, Walter Cunningham, Gilbert O. Fowler, Nathaniel P. Tallmadge, Nicholas Devereux, Anthony Van Bergen, Garrit Wendell, Archibald M'Intyre. Thomas D. Burrall, John Greig, Thomas W. Olcott, Ziba A. Leland, George P. Oakley, John Delafield, Edward P. Livingston, John Townsend, Lewis F. Allen, and all such persons as now are or may hearafter become associated with them, are hereby constituted a body corporate, by the name of "The New-York State Agricultural School," for the purposes of instruction in literature and science, and improvement in scientific and practical agriculture and the mechanic arts.

§ 2. The capital stock of the corporation shall be one hundred thousand dollars, with liberty to increase it to two hundred thousand dollars, to be divided into shares of twenty-five dollars each, which shall be considered as personal property, and be assignable in such manner as the said corporation may, in its by-laws, from time to time, provide: which said capital stock shall be exclusively devoted to the purposes and objects of the said corporation, as declared in the first section of this act, and to no other purposes or objects whatever. And to the same end, the said corporation shall have power to take, hold, and convey real estate to the extent of its said capital.

§ 3. Jesse Buel, Lewis F. Allen, Henry Yates, John P. Beekman, Joab Center, Walter Cunningham and John Delafield, shall be commissioners to receive subscriptions for, and to distribute the said capital stock of the said corporation.

§ 4. The said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall, within thirty days after the passage of this act, open a subscription book for the said stock, at such times and places as they shall appoint; and they shall give at least fourteen days' previous notice thereof in at least two agricultural papers in this state.

§ 5. At the first subscription to the capital stock of the said corporation, no subscription above one thousand dollars, by or in behalf of the same individual, shall be received. Five per cent on each share subscribed for shall be paid to the said commissioners at the time of making such subscription; forty-five per cent thereon when afterwards called for by them; and the remaining fifty per cent at the expiration of six months from the time of such subscription.

§ 6. If the whole of the capital stock of the said corporation be not taken up at the first subscription thereto, the said commissioners, or a majority of them, may receive further subscriptions thereto, from time to time, until the whole capital stock of the said corporation shall be taken up.

§ 7. The said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall, within twelve months after the passage of this act, proceed to distribute the capital stock of the said corporation among the subscribers thereto; and in case there should be subscriptions to more than the amount of such stock, it shall be the duty of such commissioners to apportion the same among the subscribers thereto, in such manner as they may deem most advantageous to the interests of the said institution, and best calculated to promote its objects.

§ 8. The stock, property and concerns of the said corporation shall be managed by thirty-two trustees, of whom the governor and lieutenant-governor of the state, for the time being, shall always, by virtue of their offices, be two; and the remaining thirty shall be stockholders of the said corporation, and citizens of this state. They shall be elected annually, and any seven thereof shall be a quorum for the transaction of the ordinary business of the said corporation.

§ 9. The persons named in the first section of this act shall be the first trustees of the said corporation, and shall hold their offices until the first Tuesday of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, and until others shall be elected in their places.

§ 10. The trustees of the said corporation for every subsequent year, except the governor and lieutenant governor, shall be elected on the first Tuesday of February in each and every year, at such hour of the day and at such place as the trustees for the time being shall appoint, and of which they shall give public notice not less than four days previous to the time of holding such election, by advertisements to be inserted in at least two of the agricultural papers in this state.

§ 11. At every election of trustees, each stockholder shall be entitled to one vote on each share of stock owned by him, and which he shall have held for at least fourteen days next preceding such election.

§ 12. All elections of trustees, other than the governor and lieutenant-governor, shall be held under the inspection of three stockholders, not being trustees, to be appointed previous to every election by the board of trustees for the time being. Such election shall be by ballod, and by plurality of votes of the stockholders or their proxies then present; and the thirty persons who shall receive the greatest number of votes shall, together with the governor and lieutenant-governer for the time being, be the trustees of the said corporation: and if at any such election for tustees, two or more persons should have an equal number of votes, then the trustees who shall have been duly elected, shall proceed by ballod, and by plurality of votes to determine which of the said persons, so having an equal number of votes, shall be trustee or trustees, so as to complete the whole number.

§ 13. If any trustee of the said corporation, other than the governor or lieutenant-governor, shall cease to be a stockholder thereof, or shall remove out of the state, his office shall thereby become vacant; and whenever any vacancy shall happen among the trustees, such vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the year in which it shall so happen, by such person possessing the qualifications above required for trustee of this corporation, as the remaining trustees for the time being, or a majority of them, shall appoint.

§ 14. The trustees of said corporation, as soon as may be after their appointment or election under this act, shall, in like manner, proceed to elect, of their number, a president, two vice-presidents, a trearsurer, recording secretary and corresponding secretary, who shall respectively hold their offices for one year, and until others are elected in their places. They shall also appoint such professors, teachers, agents, and other persons as may be necessary to conduct the proper business, and accomplish the declared objects of the said corporation.

§ 15. The said trustees shall, as soon as may be, proceed to purchase a farm of about five hundred acres of land, either contiguous to, or near the Hudson river, and as nigh to the city of Albany as may be convenient; and shall cause to be erected thereon such buildings as may be suitable and necessary, and make all such other arrangements as may be proper for the future business of the said corporation, and for the accomplishment of its objects.

§ 16. The said corporation, in exercising its power of making by-laws for its own government, shall make it an indispensable requirement that the professors, teachers, and pupils of the school hereby intended to be authorized and established, shall, unless prevented by sickness or other reasonable cause, occupy themselves for at least one half of the time the said school is in session, between the months of March and December, either in the practical agricultural business of the farm, or in the laboratories or mechanic shops connected with said school.

§ 17. The said corporation shall in no case, out of the profits arising from its business, declare and make a dividend of more than five per cent per annum, upon its actual incorporated capital paid in and possessed; and if at any time after the payment of such dividend, there shall remain any surplus of such profits, it shall be expended in additions or improvements to the farm, buildings, library, apparatus, or other necessary establishments connected with the said institution, or in reducing the price of tuition at the same.

§ 18. The governor shall appoint annually a committee of three persons, whose duty it shall be to visit the said institution, and to report the condition thereof to the Legislature at the commencement of its next session. The members of the said committee shall receive no compensation for their services under this act, but their reasonable expenses shall be paid by the said corporation.

§ 19. The corporation hereby created, shall be subject to the provisions of the eighteenth chapter of the first part of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same are applicable, and have not been modified or repealed.

§ 20. This act shall take effect immediately after the passage thereof.

—

The New-York State Agricultural School.

Books of subscription to the stock of the New-York State Agricultural School, will be opened at Albany, New-York, Ploughkeepsie, Hudson and Buffalo, on the first day of June next, at such places as the commissioners may designate. Shares $25—five per cent to be paid on subscribing.

JESSE BUEL, *Albany.*
L. F. ALLEN, *Buffalo.*
HENRY YATES, *New-York.*
JOHN P. BEEKMAN, *Kinderhook.*
JOAB CENTER, *Hudson,*
WALTER CUNNINGHAM, *Poughkeepsie,*
JOHN DELAFIELD, *New-York.*

WILLIAM ATKINSON, REAL ESTATE BROKER,

17, *Exchange-street, Rochester.*

BUYS and sells Farms and City Property on commission, and attends to the collection of Mortgages.

☞ Several valuable Farms for sale.

February, 1836. feb 20f6m*

Robbins' Planting Machine.

WITH this Machine Corn, Beans, Peas, Broom Corn, Mangel Wurtzel, Turneps, Onions, and seeds of almost every description, can be planted with more system and correctness than can be done in the usual manner of planting with the hand and hoe. One man may easily plant five acres a day, placing the seeds any given distance apart, from two or more inches, and in rows two and a half feet apart.

Machines can be had by applying to REYNOLDS & BATEHAM, Rochester; C. N. BEMENT, Treasurer of the State Agricultural Society, Albany; BUSHROD BUCK, Lanesborough, Berkshire county, Mass.; and DANIEL T. BUCK, Lowville, Lewis county, agent and proprietor for making and vending said machines, at all of which places it is intended to keep a supply on hand.

Lowville, Nov. 24, 1835. nov 28–6m

Monroe Horticultural Garden & NURSERY.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hunbred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for *Mr.* Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.

Greece, *Monroe co. N.S Y. ept. 18, 1835.*